

I am writing to ask you to block Sinclair Broadcasting from forcing their stations to air the anti-Kerry "documentary"; and if that is not possible, to discipline Sinclair Broadcasting for its misconduct.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. As I have written to you before, it is not a democracy when only a few control the media.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

There is also no mechanism for verifying the content of Sinclair's "documentary" -- and no way to hold Sinclair responsible for any errors or distortions -- because, thanks to media consolidation, there is no longer a free market for broadcast services. The few, the wealthy, the biased, dictate what is "news" and even what is "truth". That is not democracy, that is fascism.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Once again, I ask that you intervene and stop Sinclair Broadcasting from violating the law.

And further, I ask that you take corrective action to reverse the trend of consolidation.

Please let me know what you intend to do about this. I have provided you with my name and address.

Thank you.